

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A biomass gasification system comprising[[:]]:
 - a gasification furnace which generates a fuel gas from biomass;
 - a reforming device which attains a process temperature at which ~~the~~a tar component within the fuel gas is thermally cracked, ~~said reforming device being~~ connected to a supply system which feeds fuel gas from said gasification furnace to a utilization system; and
 - a fuel gas induction system ~~able to~~that feeds the fuel gas from said reforming device to said gasification furnace ~~for use as~~ fuel to power the operation of said gasification furnace during ~~the~~a time when said reforming device has not yet attained a process temperature.
2. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The biomass gasification system according to claim 1, wherein combustion turning control means is provided to select a fossil fuel or fuel gas as the fuel to be combusted to drive the gasification furnace.
3. (Currently Amended) A biomass gasification system operating method comprising[[:]]:
 - ~~a step that~~directing fuel gas is ~~directed~~ from a reforming device, within which the temperature of the fuel gas is increased to a point at which ~~the~~a tar component within the fuel gas generated from biomass in a gasification furnace is thermally cracked, to said gasification furnace ~~for use as~~ fuel to be combusted by said gasification furnace during ~~the~~a time when the temperature of said reforming device is below a process temperature.
4. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The biomass gasification system operating method according to claim 3, wherein initial operation of said gasification furnace is driven by ~~the~~ combustion of fossil fuel after which said gasification furnace operation is powered by ~~the~~ combus-

tion of fuel gas supplied from said reforming device during the time when the temperature of said reforming device is below the process temperature.